

Baltimore City Sustainability Commission Water Working Group Meeting Report

DATE: Thursday, July 10, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., Parks & People Foundation, 800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 010, Baltimore, MD 21211

SUBJECT: Water Working Group Meeting

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mary Washington	Baltimore City Sustainability Commission
John Ciekot	Baltimore City Sustainability Commission
Clark Howells	City of Baltimore, Reservoir Natural Resources Section
Dan Dillon	Baltimore Ecosystem Study
Fran Flanigan	Environmental Consultant
Laurie Schwartz	Waterfront Partnership
Regina Minniss	Private Citizen
Halle Van der Gaag	Jones Falls Watershed Association

DISCUSSION:

- Mary Washington opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and thanking them for their participation with the Baltimore Sustainability Commission, Water Working Group (WWG). The minutes from the previous two meetings were reviewed and accepted by the working group members. Ms. Washington then distributed an outline and a list of issues which were raised by the working group members and citizens attending the community conversation meeting held on June 19th. The group was asked to review the list and to fit the comments under one of six outline categories. The bulk of the meeting time was then spent categorizing the issues under the suggested headings of Water Uses, Treated Water, Untreated Water, Public Health, Policy and Management, Actions, Education and Research.

TOPIC ADDRESSED:

- What is the purpose of the document that the Sustainability Commission has charged the Water Working Group with drafting?
- Members felt that the goals should focus on good water quality, making sure that the streams and harbor meet applicable water quality standards, regulatory drivers, and community concerns.
- The group was asked to review other sustainability plans which the group could use as a framework to prepare the WWG document.
- Water is a limiting factor and important to the sustainability of Baltimore and the region.
- The recommendations should emphasize the need for Baltimore to try and meet the regulatory standards related to our water resources.
- Balance needs to be maintained between our vision of sustainability and practical, implementable actions which we can take to protect and restore our water resources.
- Recommendation should be made which outline what the City of Baltimore needs to carry out water resource goals.

- Create a tiered plan for implementation of the recommendations.
- Groundwater has not been mentioned. It should be included in the plan. Sustainability includes groundwater.

TO DO:

Group:

- Review sustainability plans created for other cities similar to the City of Baltimore.
- Provide comments on how the WWG recommendations should be organized and presented to the larger Sustainability Commission.
- Promote upcoming Community Conversation meeting to try and boost attendance.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Water Working Group Meeting**, 6pm - 8pm, Tuesday, August 12 2008, Park & People Foundation, 800 Wyman Park Drive, 21211
- **Water Working Group Community Conversation**, 6pm - 8pm, Monday, August 18 2008, New Herring Run Watershed Association Headquarters